





# The ultimate moving house guide

## 8 weeks before



- Plan it out:** Obtain a floor plan of your new home and plan what furniture will go where
  - Have a garage sale:** Get rid of the things you don't want or won't fit in your new home anymore. If they don't sell on the day, drop them off at a charity
  - Boxes:** Start collecting boxes of various sizes, this will save you lots of money when you have to buy moving boxes
  - Moving transport:** Decide whether you are going to rent a van and move everything yourself, or hire removalists. Consider your physical and mental health before making a decision
  - Repairs:** Make repairs to your current home. If you were renting, this could help you get your bond back
  - Give notice:** If you were renting your old home, inform your landlord or check your lease as to what notice period you must give before moving
  -  **PRO TIP:** If possible, get time off work on the Friday before or Monday after moving day to give you time to get settled
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## 4 weeks before

- Utilities:** Speak to your energy provider to get your utilities transferred over to your new address. Most companies will arrange a meter reading for you
  - Hire help:** Book a removalist or moving van
  - Home insurance:** Speak to your insurance company to get your new home covered. This may mean getting a new policy
  - Packing - step 1:** Start packing inconsequential things - books, golf clubs, exercise equipment
  -  **PRO TIP:** Pack heavy items in small boxes, light items in larger boxes
  - School trip:** If your kids are in school, start planning how they will get to and from school each day from your new address
  - Parking:** If you are moving to an area with on-street parking, apply for a parking permit if needed
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## 2 weeks before

- Keys:** Confirm a date and time with the real estate agents when to pick up the keys to your new home
- Save and store:** Back up your computer - if the worst happens, you still have everything saved
- Packing - step 2:** Start packing larger items - DVD collection, books, linen, clear out the shed
- First clean:** Do a general clean to areas of your home as you empty them, but don't go overboard, you will be kicking up a lot of dust

-  **PRO TIP:** Create a list of boxes and contents – it may seem like a pain now, but it will be your best friend once you move
- Car insurance:** Speak to your insurer to update your car insurance. This may affect your premium as your location and conditions change
- Seek help:** Ask\beg friends\family to help you move – even if you have hired removalists
- Safety first:** Organise a babysitter and\or pet-sitter for the little ones for moving day. There will be a lot of dangers on moving day – best to be safe
-  **Stop shopping:** If possible, stop buying food. Consume everything you have – take as little as possible with you


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## 1 week before

- Snail mail:** Update your address for your mail (or get it redirected), on your driver’s license, payslips from work and electoral enrolment
- Spring clean:** Clean the oven, on top of the cupboards, skirting boards, everything
- Cleaner:** If you don’t have time for the spring clean, hire a cleaner to thoroughly go over your old place once you have moved
- Valuables box:** Pack valuable items in a separate box – you don’t want to be guessing which box holds your passport, jewellery and other valuables. Keep this box with you
- First night box:** Create a ‘open first’ box containing a set of bed sheets and pillow cases, towel, TV remote control, change of clothes and pyjamas
- Drain liquids:** Drain harmful liquids from equipment such as the lawnmower and barbeque
- Electrician:** If you are taking light fittings with you, organise disconnection and installation with a qualified electrician
- Handy items:** Purchase small things that you will need to move in: picture hangers, welcome mat (items such as string, rope and rubber bands always come in handy)
- Rentals:** Return borrowed or rented items such as library books
-  **PRO TIP:** Moving is your best opportunity to get organised. File all your documents, bills and important information in folders or files

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## 3 days before

- Spoiled food:** Empty the pantry and fridge of food that will spoil in transit – eggs, milk, cheese
-  **PRO TIP:** Don’t forget to empty the ice tray
- Tool kit:** Put together a ‘tool kit’ for moving day: Sticky tape, Stanley knife, screwdriver, Allen key, mini torch, band-aids
- TV tip:** Take a photo of the back of your TV before unplugging everything to save the guess-work when you have to re-install it

- Seal liquids:** Seal any containers with liquid (cleaning products, condiments, toiletries) or put in a plastic bag
- Packing – step 3:** Pack everything. You can go a few nights without your luxuries like TV, Xbox and guitar
- Copy keys:** If you have keys to your new house already, get a copy cut

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## 1 day before

- Groceries:** Buy simple things like cereal, bread, milk for breakfast for the day after moving
- Finances:** Ready funds to pay for removalists\moving van
- Pre-clean:** If you have the keys, clean your new home. It is going to be a long time before you move the fridge from its place
- Packing – step 4:** Triple-check everything is packed – nothing hidden in cupboards, garage, attic
- Battery life:** Charge your mobile phone, electric drill, portable stereo and any other electronics you may need
- Say goodbye:** Take photos of sentimental things you will miss about your old home – height measurements of kids, favourite tree, mailbox
- Packing – step 5:** Pack last minute things: toiletries, medications, food. Do not spend any of your time on moving day packing
- Sleep:** You're going to need it

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## Moving day

- Final sweep:** Do a final clear-out check including areas less-visited such as the shed, attic, laundry, spare room
- Security:** Lock up your old home – windows, doors, garage – and drop keys off at real estate agent
- Unloading:** Begin the MASSIVE task of unpacking
- Examine belongings:** If you hired a removalist, inspect your belongings as you move them inside. If damaged, some removalists have insurance that will repair or replace your property
- Utilities check:** Check appliances, hot water, heating, air conditioning, electricity and water flow to make sure everything in the sale or rental agreement is adhered to
- Dinner:** Find a new local pizza place to order dinner – no cooking tonight

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